

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 20, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 18, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 10, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 12, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2720

Introduced by Assembly Members John A. Pérez and Bass

(Principal coauthor: Senator Alquist)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Galgiani and Hall)

February 19, 2010

An act to add and repeal Article 3 (commencing with Section 104660) of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2720, as amended, John A. Pérez. Public health: food access.

Existing law requires the Department of Food and Agriculture, headed by the Secretary of Food and Agriculture, to promote and protect the agricultural industry of the state.

~~Existing law, until January 1, 2011, requires the State Department of Public Health to develop a "Healthy Food Purchase" pilot program to increase the sale and purchase of fresh fruits and vegetables in low-income communities, as specified.~~

~~This bill would, until January 1, 2014, and to the extent federal funds are made available for this purpose, create the California Healthy Food Financing Initiative. It would require, by July 1, 2011, the Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the State Department of~~

Public Health and the State Department of Social Services, to prepare recommendations, to be presented upon request to the Legislature, regarding actions that need to be taken to promote food access in the state. ~~It~~ *The bill* would also require, *to the extent that federal funds are made available*, the Department of Food and Agriculture to ~~coordinate efforts to~~ implement the initiative ~~and~~. *The bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture to coordinate efforts to* maximize the funding opportunities provided by the federal 2010 Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

The bill would create the California Healthy Foods Financing Initiative Fund in the State Treasury, to be comprised of federal, state, and private funds, for the purpose of expanding access to healthy foods in underserved communities and, to the extent practicable, to leverage other funding, as specified. Moneys in the fund shall be expended upon appropriation by the Legislature.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (a) California has some of the most productive farmlands in the
- 4 world. California's farmlands produce more than 350 commodities
- 5 and food items. These farmlands require protection and efficient
- 6 operations to maintain our food supply and guarantee a natural
- 7 resource for California's future generations.
- 8 (b) California's cultural heritage provides the basis for a variety
- 9 of food items that are available to the state's 36 million residents.
- 10 (c) The production and preparation of food needs to be
- 11 conducted in a healthy and humane manner.
- 12 (d) Access to healthy food items is a basic human right. Lack
- 13 of access to healthy, affordable food items may result in higher
- 14 levels of obesity and other diet-related diseases. Communities
- 15 without access to affordable, quality, and nutritious foods are
- 16 known as food deserts.
- 17 (e) Opportunities for increasing the number of grocery stores,
- 18 urban and rural farm stands, farmers' markets, community gardens,
- 19 direct farm to institution, and direct farmer to consumer marketing
- 20 activities in underserved communities should be actively pursued

1 and fostered to ensure that all Californians have access to healthy
2 foods.

3 SEC. 2. Article 3 (commencing with Section 104660) is added
4 to Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety
5 Code, to read:

6
7 Article 3. California Healthy Food Financing Initiative
8

9 104660. This article shall be known, and may be cited, as the
10 California Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

11 104661. (a) By July 1, 2011, the Department of Food and
12 Agriculture, in consultation with the State Department of Public
13 Health and the State Department of Social Services, shall prepare
14 recommendations, to be presented upon request of the Legislature,
15 regarding actions that need to be taken to promote food access in
16 the state.

17 (b) The Secretary of Food and Agriculture may establish an
18 advisory group to assist the agencies in complying with the
19 requirements of subdivision (a). If established, the advisory group
20 shall consist of representatives from the Legislature, food policy
21 advocates, representatives from the grocery industry and financial
22 institutions, food systems researchers, representatives from the
23 agricultural industry, and representatives from nonprofit
24 organizations with expertise in this area.

25 (c) *The Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation*
26 *with the State Department of Public Health, the State Department*
27 *of Social Services, and the Treasurer, may coordinate efforts to*
28 *maximize the funding opportunities provided by the federal 2010*
29 *Healthy Food Financing Initiative.*

30 104662. (a) The Department of Food and Agriculture, in
31 consultation with the State Department of Public Health, the State
32 Department of Social Services, and the Treasurer shall implement
33 the California Healthy Food Financing Initiative, including, but
34 not limited to, coordinating efforts to maximize the funding
35 opportunities provided by the federal 2010 Healthy Food Financing
36 Initiative. ~~This national initiative is intended to expand access to~~
37 ~~nutritious foods in underserved urban and rural communities and~~
38 ~~eliminate food deserts across the country within seven years.~~
39 *Initiative. This national initiative is intended to expand access to*

1 *nutritious foods in underserved, urban and rural communities and*
2 *to eliminate food deserts across the country within seven years.*

3 *(b) This section shall be implemented only to the extent that*
4 *federal funds are made available for the purposes of this section.*

5 104663. (a) There is hereby established in the State Treasury
6 the California Healthy Food Financing Initiative Fund, which shall
7 be comprised of federal, state, and private funds for the purpose
8 of expanding access to healthy foods in underserved communities.

9 (b) Moneys in the fund shall be expended upon appropriation
10 by the Legislature, and shall be used, to the extent practicable, to
11 leverage other funding, including, but not limited to, new markets
12 tax credits, federal and foundation grant programs, incentives
13 available to designated enterprise zones, and funding from private
14 sector financial institutions pursuant to the federal Community
15 Reinvestment Act.

16 ~~104664. (a) This article shall be implemented only to the extent~~
17 ~~that federal funds are made available for the purposes of this article.~~

18 ~~(b) This~~

19 104664. *This* article shall remain in effect only until January
20 1, 2014, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
21 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2014, deletes or extends
22 that date.

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25 **CORRECTIONS:**

26 **Text—Pages 1 and 2.**

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